

Please replace claims 2-24 and 26 with the corresponding amended claims.

2. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weld metal comprises at least 0.06% carbon.

3. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weld metal comprises at least 0.3% manganese.

4. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weld metal comprises 0.005% or less sulphur.

5. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weld metal comprises at least 1.7% tungsten.

6. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weld metal comprises at least 0.04% niobium.

7. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weld metal comprises 0.02% or less nitrogen.

8. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weld metal further comprises 0.5% or less nickel.

9. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weld metal comprises 0.075% carbon, 0.2% silicon, 0.5% manganese, 0.001% sulphur, 0.017% phosphorous, 2.2% chromium, 0.1% molybdenum, 0.1% nickel, 0.23% vanadium, 0.06% niobium, 0.05% titanium, 1.9% tungsten, 0.009% nitrogen, 0.003% boron and 0.02% aluminium.

10. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the rotor element is formed from steel which comprises from 0.15 to 0.35% carbon, from 0 to 0.3% silicon, from 0.2 to 1% manganese, from 0 to 0.03% sulphur, from 0 to 0.03% phosphorous, from 0.3 to 1% nickel, from 0.7 to 1.50% chromium, from 0.5 to 1.2% molybdenum, and from 0.2 to 0.4% vanadium.

11. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the rotor element is formed from steel comprising 0.25% carbon, 0.23% silicon, 0.64% manganese, 0.005% sulphur, 0.01% phosphorous, 0.56% nickel, 0.8% chromium, 0.78% molybdenum, and 0.35% vanadium.

12. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, comprising providing a second rotor element having a composition substantially the same as the rotor element and welding the second rotor element to the rotor element using the weld metal.

13. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the welding process is a submerged-arc welding process.

14. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the method comprises a step of machining a rotor component to form the rotor element.

15. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 1, comprising a step of machining the weld metal after the step of welding.

16. (Amended) A rotor for a turbine, comprising a rotor element and weld metal welded to the rotor element, wherein the weld metal comprises: from 0.04 to 0.1% carbon, from 0 to 0.5% silicon, from 0.1 to 0.6% manganese, from 0 to 0.01% sulphur, from 0 to 0.03% phosphorous, from 1.9 to 2.6% chromium, from 0.05 to 0.3% molybdenum, from 0.2 to 0.3% vanadium, from 0.02 to 0.08% niobium, from 1.45 to 2.1% tungsten, from 0 to 0.03% nitrogen, from 0.0005 to 0.006% boron and from 0 to 0.03% aluminium.

17. (Amended) The rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the weld metal comprises at least 0.06% carbon.

18. (Twice Amended) The rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the weld metal comprises at least 0.3% manganese.

19. (Twice Amended) The rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the weld metal comprises 0.005% or less sulphur.

20. (Twice Amended) The rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the weld metal comprises at least 1.7% tungsten.

21. (Twice Amended) The rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the weld metal comprises at least 0.04% niobium.

22. (Twice Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the weld metal comprises 0.02% or less nitrogen.

23. (Twice Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the weld metal further comprises 0.5% or less nickel.

24. (Twice Amended) A rotor according to Claim 16, wherein the weld metal comprises 0.075% carbon, 0.2% silicon, 0.5% manganese, 0.001% sulphur, 0.017% phosphorous, 2.2% chromium, 0.1% molybdenum, 0.1% nickel, 0.23% vanadium, 0.06% niobium, 0.05% titanium, 1.9% tungsten, 0.009% nitrogen, 0.003% boron and 0.02% aluminium.

26. (Twice Amended) A rotor according to Claim 25, wherein the rotor element is formed from steel comprising 0.25% carbon, 0.23% silicon, 0.64% manganese, 0.005% sulphur, 0.01% phosphorous, 0.56% nickel, 0.8% chromium, 0.78% molybdenum, and 0.35% vanadium.

Please add new claims 27-30 as follows:

27. (New) The method according to Claim 12, wherein welding the second rotor element to the rotor element is a submerged-arc welding process.

28. (New) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the method comprises a step of machining a rotor component to form the second rotor element.

29. (New) The method according to Claim 12, comprising a step of machining the weld metal after the step of welding the second rotor element to the rotor element.

30 (New) A method of forming a rotor comprising the steps of:
removing at least a portion of a creep-life expired region of a first rotor element, the first rotor element formed from a steel;
replacing the removed portion of the first rotor element by welding the rotor element with a weld metal or by welding a second rotor element to the first rotor element with the weld metal, the weld metal comprising 0.04 to 0.1% carbon, 0 to 0.5% silicon, 0.1 to 0.6% manganese, 0 to 0.01% sulphur, 0 to 0.03% phosphorous, 1.9 to 2.6%